

# ECONOMIC COUNCIL LETTER

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## Is Christianity To Die?

At this season the Christian world again turns its thought to the wellsprings of its life. Anew the Star of Bethlehem appears in the sky, the angels visit the shepherds, the Magi come to the manger with their gifts. Upsurging emotion again bears witness that the content of the Christian faith is inseparable from our civilization.

But will that Star continue to shine? Is a concerted effort now being made to destroy Christianity—and human freedom with it?

### We Have God's Promise

Jesus Christ promised that against His church the gates of hell would not prevail. To imagine they could, would be to become other than Christian ourselves. God is still sovereign in His universe.

Yet evil has its seasons of triumph, and from the human point of view they may be dark and long. If men know the light but do not live by it and defend it, God sometimes lets them lose it until they want it enough to get it back.

This is the situation today. Christianity faces its greatest peril in a thousand years.

### The Church of Christ

#### Is Under Attack

Christianity is now being attacked with intelligence, skill and fanatical determination—not on one front, but many. And though these fronts may seem unrelated, all are elements of a single plan.

If the attack should succeed we would have, not a new economic order, merely, but the overthrow of our civilization. To profess and practice the Christian faith would then be sternly punished.

The destroyers of freedom know well that the surest way to destroy freedom is to destroy the religious faith from which freedom has sprung. If that can be done, no other force sufficient to oppose them will remain.

The attack does not reveal itself candidly for what it is. It will appear to be an attack on something else—such as "intolerance" or "bias." Even Christians are urged to join in the attack, on the very ground

they are Christians! As when, on December 11, left-wing Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam announced at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., that the Roman Catholic Church and the Communist Party both threaten our freedom.

### The Latest Threat

The latest attack on Christianity comes in the guise of creating "a world community."

Now, the ideal of an eventual world community is of the essence of Christianity. But the world community envisaged by Christ, the apostles and the church, and clearly set forth in Holy Scripture, is a world community of *Christians*. Handel set it to music in the Hallelujah Chorus: "The kingdom of this world is become the Kingdom of our God and of His Christ."

But such a Christian world-community is far from the minds of those who plan for "one world" in the Twentieth Century, although they gladly accept the cooperation of Christians who *think* they mean a Christian world. Just what kind of world do they want?

They want a collectivist-materialist world. Whether it is called Socialist or Communist or "Welfare" really matters little to them. It is the *substance* they want.

And a collectivist-materialist world must be a slave world. Otherwise it wouldn't work. Free men will never consent to tyranny. Christianity stands as the defense of freedom, the great obstacle to a collectivist world. Christianity must be destroyed if the world-planners are to have their way.

Communism is anti-God. Any form of collectivism is bound to be anti-God in its final pattern, whether its promoters and converts realize it or not. This is not always understood. But when the relationship between freedom and Christianity is once grasped, it becomes apparent that the anti-Christian character of collectivism is no mere accident of history, but is of its very essence.

### A Flank Attack

The new attempt to destroy Christianity is a flank, not a frontal, operation. It does not say that Christianity is "bad." On the contrary, it asserts it is "good." But it says further that Christianity is not the *only*

good or true faith, but that *every* religion is good, and that in the final analysis they are all alike!

This is as effective a device for destroying historic Christianity as could be invented. If Christianity is as good as, but no better than, any of the religions of mankind, its distinctiveness is gone. The attempt to destroy Christianity by reducing it to the level of any other religion, and of professing to find a "basic world religion" common to all mankind, is well under way.

A recent book sets forth this very scheme and makes clear the intentions of the planners. It is called "WORLD FAITH—The story of the religions of the United Nations." On its jacket is printed the commendation of Lewis Mumford, leftist "intellectual":

"Those of us who believe in a world community and a world government, as the next step in man's development, know that it must rest, ultimately, on a common World Faith."

The author, Ruth Cranston, states the same objective in other words:

"Today we are engaged in the great task of building a world society. . . . What are to be the world codes and standards of the future? If we have no common ideals and moral bases how can we expect the United Nations or any international political organization to succeed?"

That is a fair question, and the answer is obvious that no "World Government" can work unless there is a world community with common moral and spiritual ideals. *But the kind of world government that will follow creation of a world society will depend upon the nature of those ideals.* If they should be Christian we could expect a kind of government fit for free men. But if they should be the moral and spiritual ideals of a synthetic "world faith" that is *less* than Christian, we would have a government fit only for the slaves of a collectivist world. If Christianity goes, the great impulse that makes men cleave to freedom will be gone.

The plan of this book is simple. The author summarizes the world religions, extracts what she considers the common essence of them all, then presents that common essence as the religion of the future—the religion of the coming world government.

This, of course, is the kind of operation in which an author can get out of such an examination exactly what he wants. In examining the various religions, Ruth Cranston pays heed to:

"... the basic principles taught by the Founder: not the dogmas and doctrines that grew up later, but the original teachings of the Master."

In other words she finds what she calls the "essence" of Christianity by fingering the New Testament, discarding as "dogmas and doctrines that grew up later," whatever is not common to other religions, and extracting from what is left certain "basic principles" which she says are common to all religions.

The "Christianity," therefore, that she compares with other religions is not Christianity at all, but only that portion of it favored by Miss Cranston. Gone are the basic doctrines of Christianity. The pale milk-

and-water product that is left is like other religions. But it is not Christianity.

It's a smooth job. Miss Cranston succeeds in destroying the Christian religion without saying a word against it. Her praise of the Jesus she quotes is fulsome, but the Jesus she praises, who is presented as saying only the words she chooses and not the words she ignores, is an unreal caricature of the Son of God. In fact, the "Jesus" Miss Cranston praises never existed.

But if she praises Christianity, Miss Cranston has a special wrath reserved for some who call themselves Christians—for those who hold that the Cross of Christ is the only way by which man may be reconciled to God:

"A religion which holds that the Infinite is represented by one individual, that he alone is God, consequently all people must accept him or they have not the truth: such a religion naturally develops a proud and exclusive spirit. These superior sentiments—often crudely and tactlessly expressed—have roused keen resentment among peoples of other faiths with whom Christian peoples have now to try to build a united world."

If Miss Cranston is right, the important question is not whether Christianity and the claims of Christ are *true*, but whether they will hinder the effort to establish world government.

The author grovels in an effort to prove that Pilate and not Jewish authorities were responsible for the death of Jesus. She does this by hinting that the New Testament record was falsified by Christians of non-Jewish extraction at a later date. In fact, under her adroit handling, Jesus becomes merely "a young religious reformer and enthusiast" who had no intention of breaking with Judaism.

Significantly enough, the most lyrical portions of the book are those which praise Judaism—especially today's Judaism. And the final description of what a world religion should be is merely what the author has described as "the basic principles of the Jewish religion." So this book offers the *Jewish faith*, rather than Christianity, as the religion for all the world.

### This Book Explains A Good Deal

Now the importance of this book is that it is part of an immense effort now being made to destroy the Christian religion. Being a flank attack, it deceives and seduces many sincere Christians.

The attack comes from many sources. The Soviets do it directly. But they also have their technique of infiltration into Christian organizations. The purpose of this infiltration is to destroy the one spiritual force in this world strong enough to defeat them.

Two years ago, an Associate Superintendent of Schools in New York City, Isaac Bildersee, forbade the singing of any Christmas carols in the twenty-two schools of Brooklyn under his jurisdiction which mentioned the Nativity of Christ. A storm of protest was aroused; Bildersee was overruled by the Board of Education, and most people forgot the incident. If they recall it now, they think only that some particular Jew

forgot he was living in a Christian country and stepped out of line. But was it an isolated incident?

The *Jewish Weekly Times* of Boston in its issue of September 22, 1949, published an article entitled "Groups Favor End of Observance of Holidays by Schools." It reported a systematic Jewish effort to abolish in American schools the observance of certain religious holidays having "Christological allusions." It told of a joint survey by the National Community Relations Advisory Council and the Synagogue Council of America.

Here is a direct attack on Christianity. If any similar attack had been made by Christians on the Jewish minority, "liberal" newspapers would have shouted to high heaven—columnists of the "Winchell," Pearson and Allen stripe would have let out a scream. But, manifest fear of Zionist reprisals appears to have almost silenced the American press.

In a conference of the NCRAC—Synagogue Council, held apparently last September, 44 of the delegates wanted to eliminate all celebration of Christmas, 13 were "reluctant," while 37 didn't mind the observance of Christmas in Christian America provided no mention is made that it is the Birthday of Christ!

Clearly a minority of a minority (for multitudes of Jews are loyal Americans and they thank God they live here), who have received privileges in this great Christian Republic such as they never enjoyed elsewhere, now seek to destroy the very religion and culture that have given them refuge. This audacious attempt to suppress American consciousness of Christianity has come only with the rise of the Zionists to power in the Jewish community, and the blame must be laid squarely on Zionist shoulders.

### Dual Sovereignty Proposed

The *New York Times* for last September 17, carried a United Press dispatch from Paris, which we quote in part:

"The European Zionist Conference heard two appeals today for continued financial support of Israel, and a proposal that the world's Jews be granted 'double nationality,' . . . .

"Nahum Goldman, chief of the American section of the Jewish Agency, urged that Jews in all parts of the world should have 'double nationality'—to the country in which they live and to Israel."

If any American Christian group had said Jewish leaders were seeking "double nationality," it would have been charged with "anti-Semitism." Here it was said by an outstanding American Zionist.

These instances of the Zionist attempt to destroy Christianity tie in with other events: for example, with "Walter Winchell's" effort to destroy the Zionist-oppressed Christian community in Palestine by attempting to discredit the representative it has sent to American Christians asking their sympathy and help. Evidently it is a sacred obligation for American Jews to support the armed and bloody Zionist invaders of Palestine, but contemptible and "anti-Semitic" for American Christians even to talk about sending supplies of food and clothing to Palestine Christians who have been driven from their homes by Zionists.

### The New Assistant High Commissioner in Germany

The Associated Press, under date of September 19, reported from Frankfurt, Germany, the appointment of a new American representative there. Said AP:

"John J. McCloy, United States High Commissioner-designate in Germany, today appointed Benjamin J. Bittenwieser of New York as his Assistant High Commissioner. . . .

"Mr. Bittenwieser resigned from the New York banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., to accept his new post. As Assistant High Commissioner he will act as general adviser to . . . Mr. McCloy. . . .

Now the ideological struggle for the soul of Europe is being fought in Germany between the Communists and the Christians. In America little is known of that struggle, for much of the truth is not told in many American newspapers. The Christians of Germany are the largest and strongest single unit of resistance lying squarely across the Communist path.

But their situation is critical. They need the spiritual, financial and material support of American Christians. No blow could be struck at them quite so sharply as to appoint an avowed and active Zionist the Assistant High Commissioner in Germany. Multitudes of other Zionists have previously been sent to help administer occupied Germany, and they have represented, not Christian America, but a vindictive minority whose creed is "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth."

We have nothing against Mr. Bittenwieser personally, but the very fact of this Zionist appointment is a calculated and studied method of telling the Christians of Germany how little we care for their cause. Washington rumor has it that Mr. Bittenwieser was appointed to keep Mr. McCloy "in line," and that this Zionist will be the real boss in Germany.

### This Is a Crisis

Christianity, we repeat, is at stake. With Christianity, there is also at stake the continuance of our beloved America. Enemies have long been preparing its downfall—enemies so unscrupulous and vindictive, so hateful of Jesus Christ, that they will stop at nothing.

It is time to find those enemies, for when we have identified and shown them up for what they are, a large part of the world's troubles will be solved.

### David and Nathan

Once there was a king called David. He was able and wise, but he had his frailties. He looked with favor on a certain beautiful woman, not his wife. Wishing to possess her, he had her husband sent into the front rank of battle where he would almost certainly be killed. And he was killed. Then David brought the woman to his palace.

But there was a prophet called Nathan. Nathan came to David and told him that a certain rich man in town, in order to entertain a guest, took for the feast not one of his own ample flock, but a little ewe lamb, the only possession of a certain poor neighbor.

And David's anger was kindled and he said, "... the

man that hath done this thing shall surely die."

"And Nathan said to David 'Thou art the man'."

Then Nathan proceeded to tell David that he had been given riches and opportunities of all kinds—and yet he had been willing to reach out and despoil others. And because of this he told David that he and his household and his kingdom would be despoiled—unless he repented and mended his ways.

### Then—And Today

The analogy with today is close.

For these Zionists, descendants (some of them) of David's compatriots, having enjoyed the fat of the fairest land on earth, are today conspiring to take everything into their own hands. They are pursuing a policy, nationally and internationally, that threatens the traditional religion and the way of life of all America.

And as Americans awaken to what is happening, they will arise and say to the Zionist—"Thou art the man!"

For because of their overhearing greed and their recent and present willingness to involve this country in every kind of evil, they are the number one enemy of American liberty and the Christian Church. They are the outstanding cause of most of the dire troubles facing America today.

From their machinations in very recent years alone have sprung the decision to let Russia take over much of Germany, when the Germans were eager to surrender to America; the insistence on "unconditional surrender," which insured that Germany would not be a barrier to Soviet expansion after the war; the Nuremberg and Dachau "war criminal" trials, where vital American tradition and principle were trampled in the dirt; the dismantling of German factories and plants, together with continuous attempts to humiliate the German people.

All these make it today extremely likely that Western Germany will join the East. And if this cannot be prevented, all Europe will be lost to Soviet Russia.

Similarly, the Zionists are chiefly responsible for our subsidizing British Socialism. They have been at the bottom of the scheme for the U.N. and most other international alphabetical agencies. U.N., we may remember, at the instance of the Zionist-controlled Washington Administration, set up the State of Israel. It is not surprising that the State of Israel has just asserted it will refuse to submit to the resolution adopted December 9th by the Assembly of U.N. that calls for the internationalization of the Jerusalem-Bethlehem area in Palestine.

From this it is clear that the controlling influence in the world is not the United States, nor U.N. which the U.S. did so much to set up, but the Zionists. The Zionists are willing to turn against both the U.S. and U.N.—if necessary to attain their aims.

And domestically the Zionists, whether international bankers, businessmen, columnists or left-wing rabbis, are back of such control measures as Federal Aid to

Education, F.E.P.C., proposals under so-called Point Four to spend huge further amounts of American savings in distant lands—*especially in Israel*.

A wealth of evidence can be adduced to show that the Zionists have Mr. Truman's Administration in the hollow of their hand. The Socialist program is their program, as it is in Britain. There the Labor Government is controlled by them. Even some of the top conservative leaders, through financial or other favors, are Zionist-influenced. Just as are some Republican leaders in the United States.

Zionists are entitled to the same opportunities and privileges as other Americans—no more and no less. Their efforts to obtain greater than others—nay to mold all national policy to suit their own selfish desires—will in the long run jeopardize their very existence here in the United States. For when the American people awaken to what they have already done and what they seek to do, their wrath will be truly terrible.

They had better repent and abandon their schemes while there is still time—and be content with the priceless rights and privileges to which all who live in America are entitled.

### Let Us Exercise

#### Eternal Vigilance

At this Christmas Season, all who profess and call themselves Christians will do well to look to the preservation of Christianity and of their freedom.

Both must continue to exist—or neither will.

*Hermon K. Hair*

President,

**NATIONAL ECONOMIC COUNCIL, Inc.**

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